

Access

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In This Issue

3 Library Improvement Projects

9 Guide to Books in Series

10 Around the State

Librarian on the Loose! Libraries Across Michigan Take Part in Unique MLA Fund-Raiser

by Eva Davis, MLA Conference Publicity Chair, Ann Arbor District Library

Have you seen the librarian? The diminutive Librarian Action Figure, produced by Archie McPhee and Co. and modeled on real-life Seattle librarian Nancy Pearl, is spending her summer vacation touring the many fascinating towns and libraries in Michigan. At the end of her journey she will then be auctioned off, with a photo album of her trip, at the Michigan Library Association (MLA) annual conference at the Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City, Oct. 27-29, 2004. Auction proceeds support MLA member services.

This unique fund raising idea was the brainchild of auction committee member Stephanie Perentesis of Michigan State University, who brought it to her colleague and committee chair, Kathleen Weessies. Weessies very quickly assembled the details and instructions, and an announcement was sent to the MICHILIB-L and MLA-INFO e-mail lists asking libraries in the state to host our Librarian Action Figure.

Within days, more than 75 libraries contacted Weessies to offer their hospitality. Overwhelmed by the friendliness of Michigan librarians, our librarian packed her bags and began her LoL-USPS (that's Librarian on the Loose-U.S. Postal Service) tour in April – a little earlier than planned – to make sure she had time to visit all of her new friends.

Take the trip with her as she travels from the north (Calumet school library on the Keweenaw Peninsula) to the south (Niles District Library) to the east (St. Clair County Library) and the west (Michigan Technological University in Houghton). Where will she be this week? The Library of Michigan? Dykema Gossett in Detroit? The W.K. Kellogg Foundation in Cereal City? Visit <http://www.mla.lib.mi.us/test/development/conference/2004/auction.htm> to see a photo of where our librarian has been, and see the sights of Michigan without ever having to leave your computer.

If you missed your chance to host our librarian this summer, don't despair! If you or someone you know owns a Librarian Action Figure, feel free to send a photo with the date, location, and the names and titles of any companions to Stephanie Perentesis, LoL, 100 Library E119B, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, 48824, by Oct. 20. Photos may be taken in your library, outside your library, at a famous or not-so-famous landmark – the sky's the limit!

Better yet, if you have a digital camera, send a photo with the identifying information to perente1@msu.edu and shamsml@udmercy.edu for posting on the conference Web site (<http://www.mla.lib.mi.us/test/development/conference/2004/auction.htm>).

The Library as Place

by Jo Budler,
Deputy State Librarian

Once again, the Library of Michigan is pleased to feature in its May issue of *Access* those Michigan libraries which have undergone renovations or moved to new facilities. We all know that during difficult financial times, libraries are more heavily used by members of their communities. However, it is significant that during these difficult financial times – when funding is hard to find – many library users are choosing to fund renovation or building projects for libraries in their communities. People recognize that the library offers not only a service, but is also very much a place.

The library is a place where many children are first introduced to reading during preschool story times.

The library is a place that community groups utilize for meetings and classes; meeting rooms at libraries are rarely empty.

The library is a place where many students come for homework help.

The library is a place where individuals come to learn how to use the Internet, and then come back to learn how to evaluate the information that they find there.

The library is a place where people far from home come to keep up with the news from home by reading their local newspaper.

Library users know that the sign of a strong community is a strong library at its heart. The proof? It's in this issue of *Access*. Congratulations to all the libraries and library staff whose communities have recognized their importance and their contributions to the lives of those they serve.

Looking for answers to technical issues?
Visit
<http://www.michigan.gov/techforlibraries>

Our librarian's journey will end on Oct. 20 at the Traverse Area District Library with Director Michael McGuire, who will show her the sights before she settles in for the bidding war that is sure to ensue at the MLA auction at the Grand Traverse Resort.

You can't bid if you aren't there! Be sure to see the finished product at the Michigan Library Association's 2004 conference. While you're there, enjoy the conference exhibits, visit the Internet Room, network with friends and colleagues, and attend as many of the 40-plus programs as you can. Register at <http://www.mla.lib.mi.us/test/development/conference/2004/registration.htm>

Michigan Librarian Wins 2003 *New York Times* Award

by Andrew Wilson, SBPH Services and Data Coordinator,
Library of Michigan

Congratulations to Margaret Wolfe, the librarian coordinator of the Washtenaw County Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled (LBPDP), on winning one of the *New York Times* Librarian Awards for 2003. The award was presented to Wolfe, who won one of two Midwest region awards, at a December reception in New York City.

The award recognizes librarians "whose exemplary performance and outstanding community service have made their libraries friendlier and more accessible institutions." Wolfe was the only winner from Michigan and one of over 2,000 who were nominated.

Margaret Wolfe was the regional librarian at the Library of Michigan Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped from 1983 to 1994, and has been at the Washtenaw County LBPDP since 1995. She was nominated by Patrick D. Cannon, executive director of the Michigan Commission for the Blind and a longtime patron of the Library for the Blind.

This is the first year that the *New York Times* Librarian of the Year Award became national, resulting in 27 national "Librarians of the Year" for 2003. Fifteen of the awards went to librarians in Connecticut, New Jersey and New York. Twelve awards went to six regions across the country: Great Lakes, Midwest, Mountain, Northeast, Plains and Southeast.

Building a Better Library: Improvement Projects Help Michigan Libraries Enhance Service

*compiled by
Casey Kremers, Department of History, Arts and Libraries*

With construction and home-improvement season upon us, it's time for our annual look at library building, renovation and expansion projects. Once again, libraries across the state have improved their facilities in a variety of unique ways, demonstrating their commitment to providing the best possible service to their communities.



Clinton-Macomb Public Library mural

accomplished through spacious ceilings, terrazzo flooring, hardwood paneling and works of art.

The Main Library also has an assortment of features to satisfy many library visitors. There are four meeting rooms available to the public, a section of outreach materials for the visually impaired, a local history room and a computer lab in addition to the standard library features.

The library is also adorned with fantastic pieces of art, including a hand-painted mural depicting the local history of the area, a Fieldstone fireplace in the periodicals area, a large globe depicting Earth and a First Amendment wall above the public information racks.

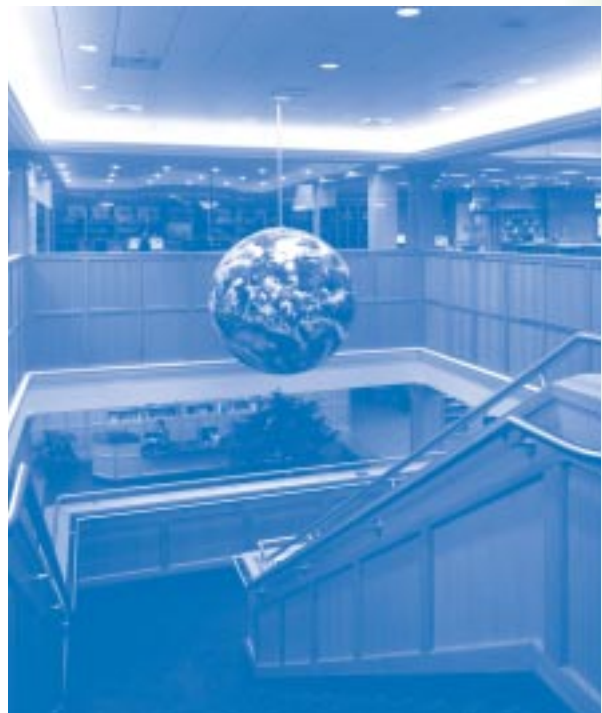
The Main Library is the crowning achievement of the Clinton-Macomb Public Library system – its welcoming environment invites visitors, and its cozy features entice them to spend the day.

Clinton-Macomb Public Library

by Jamie Morris, Community Relations Specialist

On Oct. 26, 2003, the Clinton-Macomb Public Library opened the Main Library to a remarkable crowd of over 3,000 people. The dedication of the 84,000-square-foot Main Library, considered the crown jewel of the Clinton-Macomb Public Library system, featured speeches by U. S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow and Rep. Sander Levin, as well as local dignitaries.

The largest library in Macomb County, the Main Library attracts numerous visitors daily and has circulated over 79,000 items since opening in October 2003. Architect Kent Johnson of TMP stated that he wanted the library to have a “wow” effect on people when they entered the building. The “wow” effect has been



Clinton-Macomb Public Library



Pinckney Community Public Library children's area

Riemenschneider of Riemenschneider Design Associates, Inc. in Ann Arbor, the renovation included brand new shelving units, carpeting, a comfortable seating and browsing area, a new technology area for public computer use, a new and more functional circulation desk, new glass-enclosed cabinets for the library's local history collection, renovated bathroom facilities, and a redesigned meeting room and office space. The remodeling also includes tackable walls for easy and more attractive displays of artwork and informational signs, and it highlights a more colorful and well-defined children's area.

The library's Friends group and PCPL staff members helped organize the open house to celebrate the library's recent "facelift." Patrons and library staff enjoyed an afternoon of games and guitar music. Baffling Bill the Magician amazed the audience with a magic show to open the festivities, and ongoing activities included window coloring, cardmaking, trivia, a "leaping" game and a cake-cutting ceremony. Patrons were also treated to door prizes and goodies to eat. By the end of the day, more than 100 patrons had attended the celebration — a wonderful way to introduce our new library to the community!

Pinckney Community Public Library

by Hope Siasoco, Library Director

When the Pinckney Community Public Library (PCPL) needed a little artistic flair, local artist Kelly Wiese answered the call. Wiese, from Pinckney, has painted hundreds of murals locally and statewide, and she has generously donated her time and talent with a mural in the library's children's section. The theme of the piece is a smiling moon, with a spinning Saturn and shooting stars upon a background of blue night sky. The theme was carefully chosen by the library's youth librarian, Sara Castle, in discussions with the artist, so that it would match the library's brand new surroundings — new furniture featuring moons, stars and planets and a shooting star design on the carpet marking the entrance to the library's children's area.

After closing for the month of December 2003, the library celebrated its newly renovated facility with the "Leap Into Your New Library" open house in February 2004. Designed by Alyce



Pinckney Community Public Library



Martha W. Griffiths Michigan Rare Book Room vestibule

Library of Michigan — Martha W. Griffiths Michigan Rare Book Room

*by Nancy Robertson,
Deputy State Librarian, Internal Operations,
and Rare Book Curator*

The Library of Michigan Foundation began its capital campaign for the Martha W. Griffiths Michigan Rare Book Room in the early 1990s. After many years of anticipation, the design and construction of the facility within the walls of the Michigan Library and Historical Center (MLHC) began in 2002 and were completed with a celebration in October 2003.



*Reading room –
Martha W. Griffiths Michigan Rare Book Room*

Quinn Evans Architects was selected as the design firm. Since the Library of Michigan is a library for the citizens of Michigan as well as for the Legislature and state government, it was important that the room be designed as a space that asked to be entered and used, rather than one that seemed unapproachable and only for an elite or limited group.

The approach to the room is highlighted with a bright copper-colored pillar just outside a wide floor-to-ceiling paneled window offering a view of the reading room and the check-in desk. The visitor's eye is drawn into the subdued and calm light blue space by another bright copper pillar centered within the heart of the reading room itself.

The entrance to the room is through a glass doorway opening into the vestibule area. Here a wood-paneled wall announces the name of the room in bold-brushed metal lettering, emphasizing the fact that it honors Michigan's first woman lieutenant governor, Martha W. Griffiths. An etched-glass panel to the right of the entrance door lists the names of all the donors who provided funding for the room's design and construction. Once inside the vestibule, visitors can choose to either enter the exhibit room or deposit their belongings in the cloakroom and enter the reading room to check in and use materials from the rare book collection.

The entire west wall of the reading room is comprised of beautifully milled wooden shelving and glassed exhibit cases, which also serve as windows to and from the open stacks surrounding the rare book room complex. Patrons using the open stacks collections are able to see into the reading room, encouraging them to come into the room itself and make use of the collection or view the exhibits.

The entire complex is enclosed in a vapor barrier and has its own environmental system. Four individually controlled climate control zones – the exhibit room; the vestibule and reading room; the office and work space; and the rare book storage area – can each be set at appropriate relative humidity and temperature levels.

The Martha W. Griffiths Michigan Rare Book Room is truly a gem within a gem, built within the Michigan Library and Historical Center and designed to stand out as a separate and special space and yet remain an integral part of the existing building and its design. The room is on the fourth floor of the Library of Michigan and is open to the public and state government. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

Malletts Creek Branch, Ann Arbor District Library

by Tim Grimes

Opening day of the new Malletts Creek Branch of the Ann Arbor District Library was a smashing success. As 1,800 individuals walked through the doorways, they marveled at the branch innovations and the sustainable design of the facility.

The branch, which held its grand opening in January 2004, is a unique model of sustainable design. Sustainable systems at the Malletts Creek Branch include:

- **BIOSWALES**
Planted with native plant material, the bioswales in the parking lot will help absorb and filter storm water before it passes through the detention ponds to the Malletts Creek. Sandy soils are conducive to bioswales, allowing storm water to be held onsite as an amenity and not treated as a waste product.
- **VEGETATED ROOF**
The 3.5-inch-deep roof system is planted with various species of sedum. This promotes absorption, slowing and purifying storm water that runs off the structure into the overland flow system. The flow is managed as groundwater until it enters the creek
- **MONITORING CATCH BASINS**
These basins, built into the bioswales, will be monitored as part of an EPA grant in a study to assess the effects of the filtration system.
- **CORK FLOORING**
One example of the use of renewable resources in the structure, cork is used in the entry, central walkway and reading room. Because of its durability, acoustical properties and ease of



*Malletts Creek Branch, Ann
Arbor District Library*

maintenance, it has been a traditional floor covering in public libraries for over 100 years.

- **CONVECTIVE COOLING**
Floor-level windows on the south side of the building operate automatically and in tandem with windows located above, in the roof monitors. These allow cool air to enter the building low and replace the warm air that escapes through the monitors. This type of cooling will reduce the demand for electricity.



*Malletts Creek
Branch reading room*

- **SOLAR GAIN**
The south windows and adjacent dark floor admit and hold maximum solar gain for heating in the winter to further reduce the need for fossil fuels. Sun shading and awnings reduce summer heat gain.
- **HEATING**
Heating for the entire facility is provided through a radiant circulating hot water system in the floor, reducing the dependency on the forced-air system.
- **LIGHTING**
The number and placement of windows maximize day lighting during all seasons. Daylight sensors monitor the level of natural light and reduce the overall use of electricity.
- **MATERIALS**
Many of the materials used in the structure – including the carpeting, butcher block table and shelving tops, copper cladding and masonry units – were selected on the basis of recycled content, recyclability and fuel consumptions in production and delivery.

In addition to the sustainable elements of the branch, the 14,000-square-foot facility boasts several new features including a sizable program room, a computer area, a reading room (named after Nellie S. Loving, Ann Arbor's first librarian), a children's space with a fish tank and an exhibits area.

The Malletts Creek Branch was designed by Luckenback-Ziegelman Architects PLLC, with InSite Design Studio serving as the landscape architects and Skanska USA Building, Inc. as construction manager.

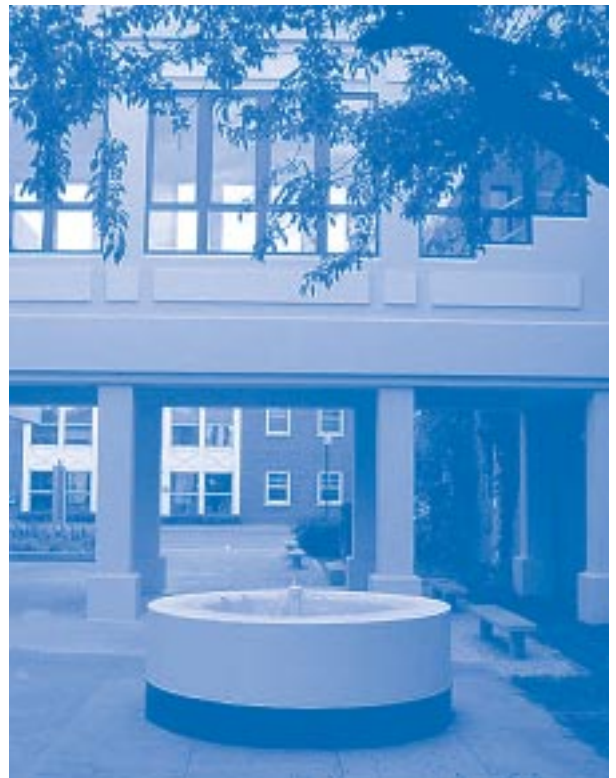
Alpena County Library

By Judi Stillion, Library Director

Alpena County Library expanded in a most unique way that has helped revitalize the downtown area as well. Always considered the cultural center of the city, the library has increased usage considerably with the new conference room and offices that were purchased and renovated.

The library board purchased the second floor of the building next door (8,000 square feet), had it condominiumized and then connected the two with a causeway that extends from the old library building to the newly purchased second floor.

This space has served multiple uses in its nearly-100-year history: an automobile dealership, garment factory, furniture store, temporary high school, roller rink, storage facility and now a library. The renovation project included office space, a storage area and a classic, elegant conference room that will seat over 300 and accommodate the library's many large programs and that the community can now utilize as well.



Alpena County Library causeway

The original hardwood floors were refinished, windows were put in to lighten the area, and a lot of “Frank Lloyd Wright” touches – including a custom-designed rug and stained glass decorations and lamps – were added. The room is warm, comfortable and inviting, a fact that has been confirmed many times over by its frequent use (two to three times a day, seven days a week). The overall effect has been to bring more people to the library and more people downtown. It is the beginning of a heightened level of library service in the community.

Hart Area Public Library

by Joan LundBorg, Library Director

The dedication ceremony of the new Hart Area Public Library (HAPL) was held on April 18, 2004, with Department of History, Arts and Libraries Director Dr. William Anderson as the guest speaker. It was a day to celebrate the new 7,200-square-foot facility designed by Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, Inc. of Grand Rapids and to recognize the community-wide effort that enabled the project.

The move is not big in terms of distance (only across the parking lot) but it is huge in terms of services! The building offers many features for our patrons that were not available in the previous location, including quiet reading areas, a children’s room, a meeting room and accessibility to handicapped patrons. During the 10-month construction period, everyone who came to the HAPL monitored the daily progress and became instant sidewalk superintendents. By the time community volunteers shelved the last book, it already felt like home.



Hart Area Public Library

Richland Community Library

by Barb Blondia

In May 2003, Sen. Tom George headlined the dedication ceremony for the expanded and renovated Richland Community Library, presenting a proclamation from Gov. Jennifer Granholm and praising the community for its efforts to complete the phenomenal project. Hundreds of enthusiastic participants attended the dedication.

The library’s original facility was conceived, built and funded by the Ladies Library Association of 1880. A needs assessment and feasibility study, conducted by the Breton Group of Grand Rapids, validated the concept for the expansion project. Funding included a capital campaign and a bond issue, which raised the \$1.8 million to complete the project within budget.

The project architect was David Osler Associates of Ann Arbor, chosen for previous exceptional renovation and expansion of historic buildings. Construction was by the Kalleward Group.

The project allowed the library to expand the previous 4,000 square feet to nearly 12,000, increase collections in all areas, create a dedicated children’s area, and develop a history department for collections of local archives. A community meeting room,

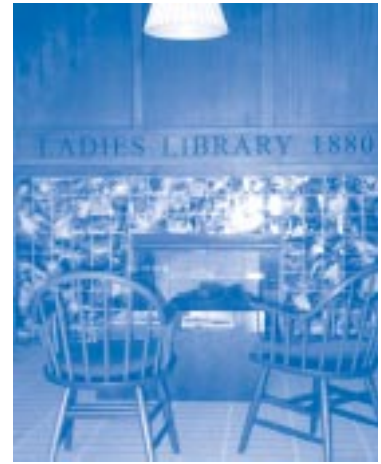


Richland Community Library

technology options, reading areas and adequate parking space were also added, all within the Richland Village Square. The newly expanded children's area is named in honor of Joan Split, library director for the past 35 years.

In the six-month period between the library's dedication and the end of the year, there were 551 new patrons, for a total of 3,957, and circulation topped 30,000.

Richland Community Library's new fireplace pays tribute to the original building's 1880 benefactors



Rawson Memorial Library

by Kate Van Auken, Library Director

For over a year, I had been dreaming of an area in the library specifically geared toward young adults (YA), ages 12-18. The library had quite a bit for younger children and adults but nothing specifically for this age group. We live in a very rural area and opportunities for outside activities are quite limited. The YAs needed a place to feel comfortable and to hang out with friends or use the computers.

It started in August 2002 by contacting our middle school librarian and asking for help in forming a YA advisory group. At the end of October 2002, seven middle-schoolers and myself sat down in the undeveloped area and looked through library furnishing catalogs, and ideas were flowing. I was so happy that they understood the area needed to be aesthetically pleasing to other patrons yet be inviting to YAs. I then used the free design service offered by Demco and a few months and faxes later, we had a basic floor plan.

The Young Adult Advisory Group (YAAG) told me they wanted to help in any way they could to make this space become a reality. They held bake sales and raised over \$500 that went toward new books and magazines for the area. In each new book they chose, I put a bookplate reading "Selected by the YAAG 2003." Ownership speaks volumes!

I next pored over issues of *VOYA-Voice of Youth Advocates*, concentrating on the "YA Spaces of Your Dreams" section to see what other libraries were doing

and how I could incorporate all these ideas into a 170-square-foot area. A daunting task but the YAAG and I were up for it! These YAs have so much energy and enthusiasm, not to mention great ideas, so we were focused and moving ahead.

Three weeks before our grand opening, my husband and I assembled furniture, staff painted walls and cataloged books. We hung blue tarps around the area and hung "danger" tape all over with signs that read "Dangerously New Materials Coming Sept. 6, 2003!" This was a great way to get all of our patrons asking questions about what was going on.

The evening before the opening, the YAAG had a special preview with their parents so they could enjoy all they had accomplished in a year. The open house went very well with lots of giveaways, food, and a survey asking the YAs what they wanted in the way of library services. We have since held a handful of programs like "Urban Legends and Other Scary Stories" and "You Can't Do That @ The Library" night. We have also formed a YA book club that meets one Saturday a month during the school year.

Circulation continues to rise and I am seeing people at the library I haven't before. This project has been a great accomplishment for our community and our library. So, if you haven't done the YA thing yet, consider it, but ask the YAs of your library and community what they want ... they will surprise you!

Web-sitings

by Kyle Kay Ripley, Reference Assistant, Library of Michigan

Home Improvement

Do It Yourself

<http://doityourself.com>

Better Homes and Gardens

<http://www.bhg.com/bhg/index.jhtml>

Home Ideas: The Ultimate Research Tool For Your Home Project

<http://www.homeideas.com>

Don Vandervort's Home Tips

<http://www.hometips.com>

Bob Vila: The Ultimate Home Site

<http://www.bobvila.com>

Real Home: Online Guide of Home Improvement Sites

<http://directory.ceramlinks.com/home-improvement>

This Old House (PBS series)

<http://www.thisoldhouse.com/toh>

Hometime (PBS Series)

<http://www.pbs.org/hometime>

Need to Know *What's Next*? KDL Guide to Books in Series Can Help

by Katie Zuidema, Communications Assistant,
Kent District Library

Has a patron ever asked you what book number 13 was in the James Bond series by John Gardner? Have you ever wanted to recommend the first book in the Hardy Boys series by Franklin W. Dixon to a child, but you couldn't quite remember the title? The *What's Next* book (2003 edition), compiled and published by Kent District Library, is your key to answering these questions and thousands of others.

What's Next is a list of books in series, both adult and youth. The book is divided into four sections – series with a single author, series with multiple authors, index by title of series, and youth series-index by title of series. The pages of the book are color-coded, and everything is listed in alphabetical order, either by series title or author's last name, so it is very easy to find books in series order. When possible, the books have been identified by genre.

Please consider adding this book to your professional collection. An order form for *What's Next* can be printed from KDL's Web site at <http://www.kdl.org>. Click on the *Books and Reading* link and scroll down to *What's Next*. Books are \$35 each, plus shipping costs. Order forms can be faxed to (616) 647-2950 or mailed to:

Kent District Library
Attn: Pat Seeber
814 West River Center NE
Comstock Park, MI 49321

Shipping Costs

1 book	\$3
2-5 books	\$5.50
6-10 books	\$9

Tax Requirements

Michigan residents, please add 6 percent to the total for your book order (shipping is excluded). Non-profits must list their federal tax ID number to have tax deferred. Those non-profits omitting their TIN will be billed.

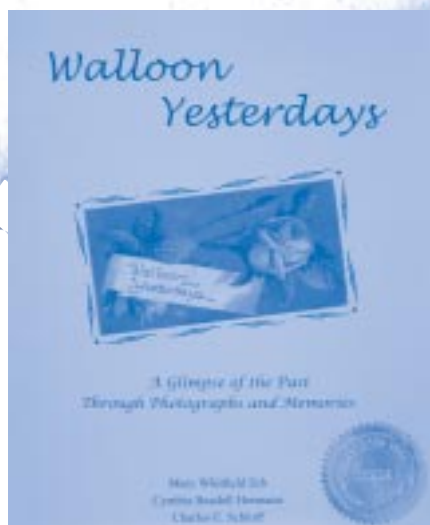
The electronic version of *What's Next* is available on KDL's Web page at <http://www.kdl.org>. If you have any questions, please contact Patricia Seeber at (616) 784-2016, ext. 2233 or pseeber@kdl.org.

Crooked Tree District Library Publishes Pictorial Local History

When the Friends of the Crooked Tree District Library first discussed creating a local keepsake using historical photographs of the area, they couldn't have imagined its success or its impact on the library.

The project began a few years ago while the Friends were working on a calendar of old photos of Walloon Lake for the year 2000. They were overwhelmed with the number of photographs received, and an idea was born to compile a book of Walloon's rich past. The result: *Walloon Yesterdays*, a 300-page, hard-cover pictorial history of the Walloon Lake area, published in July 2003, with more than 500 photos and postcards that date back to the 1800s. The book is a diverse collection of materials donated by more than 60 individuals, and complemented by stories passed down orally from generation to generation by local families. Walloon artist Tom Hunter provided original sketches for the volume, which was printed by Mitchell Graphics in Petoskey.

During the three-year process, the Friends were active in fund raising for the project, and the book became a labor of love for members Cynthia Hermann and Mary Erb, who became its co-authors. They were joined by Charles Schloff, who provided his expertise as a published author. Proceeds from the sale of the book were targeted for the library's endowment fund, which was created to help with operating costs for the new library, built four years ago. Demand for the books has been high, and the Friends have presented gifts to the library and its endowment fund in the amount of \$17,000! Copies are still available, and the Friends expect the book to continue helping them to reach their fund raising goals.



Pictorial history book published by Crooked Tree District Library

Albion Public Library's E-News Initiative Wins WebJunction Award

The WebJunction Award winner for Innovative Content and Use of Technology for 2003 is Albion Public Library's Forks Initiative, a community network administered by the library. WebJunction (<http://www.webjunction.org>) is an online community where library staff meets to share ideas, solve problems and take online courses. The Forks Initiative, at <http://www.forks.org>, has a mission to provide local access to electronic information that meets the diverse educational, cultural and informational needs of the community equitably and cost-effectively.

In October 2001, the daily paper, the *Albion Recorder*, became a weekly paper. In response to citizens' complaints about not receiving up-to-date news, The Forks established the Albion E-News, which gives its readers a brief heads-up, three times per week, on what is going on in the greater Albion area – whether it be breaking news, feature stories, obituaries, sports results or special-event items.

Delivered to subscribers via their e-mail, Albion E-News is a supplemental news service providing a brief overview of stories with links to other Internet sites where the reader may find more in-depth information and photographs. It is also easily accessible for posting news and community calendar items. There are currently over 1,000 subscribers in a community of about 14,000.



Howell Carnegie District Library's Capital Campaign Reaches Goal

Howell Carnegie District Library's *Help Cultivate Young Minds* capital campaign, which began in 2002, recently reached its goal of \$290,000 with gifts from over 200 individuals, families, businesses, organizations and foundations. The project will redesign and renovate the youth services area in the library building, on schedule to be complete by the end of 2004. While the redesign will not add more square footage to the youth services area, it calls for taller shelves, more shelves and multimedia display units. The entire remodeling project is centered on making the space more functional, accessible and attractive.

When the Howell Carnegie District Library was redesigned in 1988, examples of creative designs for children's and young adult spaces in libraries were limited. Over the years, the number of patrons using youth services has increased dramatically, and as the library is currently configured, 90 percent of the available seating is designed for preschool-sized children with little room for older children or adults.

"The vast majority of the furniture is great— if you are under the age of 5. The new furniture will provide age- and size-appropriate options for elementary, middle school and adults, and the young adult room is desperately in need of more shelving for all materials," said Holly Ward Lamb, head of youth services. Also, Lamb added, "Shifting around the material will group collections more conveniently by age of intended user."

If you have a news item you would like to contribute, please contact Casey Kremers at 517-373-5578 or email: ckremers@michigan.gov.

Delta Township District Library Dedicates Lissa K. McLean Collection

As part of its National Women's History Month Celebration, the Delta Township District Library officially dedicated the Lissa K. McLean Collection. Lissa K. McLean, a Waverly High School graduate and former Lansing resident, generously contributed \$3,000 and more than 600 books celebrating women in history, sports, politics and literature to the library. McLean desired to make available to her local community the same type of materials that she herself sought out as a young girl. State Librarian Christie Pearson Brandau, State Sen. Patricia Birkholz, Delta Township officials, local dignitaries and members of the McLean family were among 85 who gathered in March as the library officially unveiled this wonderful collection with a public reception.

The 2004 theme for Women's History Month was "Women Inspiring Hope and Possibility," and Lissa McLean certainly provided inspiration to many women across the country. Her monetary and spiritual contributions to the Delta Township District Library, Women's National History Project, and the Women's National Basketball Association are only part of the story of this inspiring woman who always had hope and demonstrated the possibility for women to make a difference.

"The McLean family has been very generous to this library. The collection is a great opportunity for the community to see what one person can accomplish and a wonderful way to inspire children to read and learn about women and the possibilities to do great things," said Library Director Cherry Hamrick.



State Sen. Patty Birkholz (left) and Delta Township Trustee Dorothy Maxwell attend the dedication of the Lissa K. McLean Collection

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